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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY Armenian Minorities DATE OF INFORMATION 1951

SUBJECT Political

DATE DIST. 2 | Sep 1951

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper

WHERE NO. OF PAGES 2 PUBLISHED Aleppo

DATE
PUBLISHED 4 Jul 1951 SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE Armenian REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFOR"ATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONACE ACT SO U.S.C. SI AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELLIGION OF ITS CONTRIBUTE OF A WANGET OR AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PRO-

STATE

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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SOURCE Arevelk Da, nak Party organ.

ACCUSES COMMUNISTS OF USING WELFARE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES

It is well known that the USSR spends large sums of money in capitalist countries for the purpose of fostering unrest and Communist propaganda. There is no doubt that Communist organizations abroad receive some financial assistance from Moscow. However, they also have other valuable sources of foreign currency which we believe is an extremely serious matter.

These sources may be divided into two major categories, as far as the Armenians abroad are concerned:

- Collection of funds from Armenian communities for the purpose of repatriating dispersed Armenians to the fatherland.
- 2. Collection of contributions for the needy in Soviet Armenia by fellow-traveler and Communist-front organizations.

The major part of funds thus raised is used for propaganda purposes and for Communist activities among the Armenians outside the USSR. Following are some examples to prove this point:

- 1. When the repatriation movement first started, Danoush Shahviranian, an Armenian SSR representative, went to Greece and was able to stir up so much enthusiasm for repatriation that the Armenian Red Cross of Greece gave him the 3,000 dollars which had been sent from the US to aid the Armenian war victims of Greece. After a few months, Shahviranian used this money to purchase the machinery and type of the Maksajian printing press at Istanbul and to transfer it to Athens. He then started the publication of Haghdanak (Victory), the first large Armenian Communist daily in Greece.
- 2. For many years Soviet Armenia has collected large sums of money from the Armenian General Benevolent Union /a welfare organization/ in the US, the Middle East, the Balkans, and France, always in the name of reconstruction of Armenia or repatriation of refugees. It is well known that this money has not been used for Armenians in the Armenian SSR but for Communist activities abroad.

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3. In January 1950, Deghekadu, organ of the Armenian National Council of America /reputed to be a Communist front organization, reported the following communication by Ashod Aprahamian, who is vice-president of the Committee to Promote Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad, at well as an official of Echmiadzin:

"It is not necessary to purchase gifts, clothing, machinery, and other articles for Soviet Armenia with the money which you collect. At present, Soviet Armenia has plenty of everything and does not need your help. I advise you to use such contributions for the activities of your organization."

This is the same Ashod Aprahamian, who is now visiting Antalya, Turkey, as a representative of Echmiadzin, to take over the funds collected by churches in the name of Echmiadzin.

4. Danoush Shahviranian, the above-mentioned, well-known Soviet Armenian agent, and other Bolshevik Armenians have approached wealthy Armenian industrialists in Greece, Italy, France, the Arab countries, and the US, requesting the contribution of sizable sums of money for the repatriation of dispersed Armenians. It is well known that the major part of these funds were used for propaganda purposes abroad.

The USSR, with its excellent contacts through Communist-front organizations in many countries, does not need any capital from Moscow for its activities abroad. She knows how to utilize to maximum advantage local fund sources.

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